

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 094611
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY S/MS:MDSHULMAN:EJQ

APPROVED BY S/S:FWISNER

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O 130046Z APR 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 094611

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: UR

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH DOBRYNIN APRIL 12

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1. THE SECRETARY MET WITH DOBRYNIN APRIL 12 AND THE FOLLOW-
ING SUBJECTS WERE DISCUSSED.

2. SALT

THE SECRETARY TOLD DOBRYNIN THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE
SIGNING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TRIP WITHIN THE NEXT 24 HOURS,
AND THAT WARNKE WOULD CONVEY TO DOBRYNIN ELEMENTS OF THE
POSITIONS TO BE DISCUSSED THAT WOULD HELP SOVIET AUTHORITIES
TO PREPARE FOR THE MEETING. WARNKE SAID HE WOULD ALSO BE
SENDING INFORMATION TO THE SALT DELEGATION AT GENEVA, AND
DOBRYNIN REPLIED THAT THIS WOULD BE GOOD; SEMENOV, HE SAID,
WAS FULLY AU COURANT.

3. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT WISHED HIM TO
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STRESS THE NEED FOR SOVIET UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL
IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE GAP ON THE BACKFIRE ISSUE.
DOBRYNIN REPLIED THAT IT WAS NOT A PROBLEM OF UNDERSTANDING,
BUT THE UNACCEPTABILITY TO THE SOVIET UNION OF THE RE-
PEATED NEW DEMANDS SINCE GROMYKO'S EFFORTS TO MEET U.S.
NEEDS LAST SEPTEMBER. AT THAT TIME, HE SAID, GROMYKO

HAD GOTTEN APPROVAL FROM THE POLITBURO TO GO AS FAR AS HE DID ON THE STRENGTH OF HIS ASSURANCE THAT THIS WOULD REMOVE THE BACKFIRE OBSTACLE TO A SALT AGREEMENT.

4. IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION, DOBRYNIN AGREED THAT NEW SYSTEMS AND MODERNIZATION WOULD BE THE KEY ISSUE. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE PROPOSED TO START WITH A DISCUSSION OF SALT, AND THEN TAKE UP THE MIDDLE EAST (AT SOVIET REQUEST) AND AFRICA, AND THEN RETURN TO SALT, CTB, AND MBFR. DOBRYNIN AGREED, AND ASKED IF THE SECRETARY WERE PREPARED TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS INTO SATURDAY IF NECESSARY. THE SECRETARY REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY. IT WAS AGREED THAT SOCIAL FUNCTIONS SHOULD BE HELD TO A MINIMUM, IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE WORKING TIME DURING THE VISIT.

5. SHEVCHENKO

THE SECRETARY TOLD DOBRYNIN WE HAD NO OBJECTION TO SOVIET DOCTORS EXAMINING SHEVCHENKO IF HE AGREED. HE ADDED THAT WE HAD PASSED THE SOVIET REQUEST TO HIS ATTORNEY. DOBRYNIN ASKED IF WE WOULD COMPEL HIM TO SUBMIT TO EXAMINATION, AND THE SECRETARY SAID NO. THE SECRETARY SAID WE HAD ALSO PASSED ON DOBRYNIN'S REQUEST FOR ANOTHER MEETING WITH SHEVCHENKO. THE SECRETARY AND SHULMAN THEN TOOK DOBRYNIN TO TASK FOR THE INTEMPERATE STATEMENT ISSUED BY
SECRET

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THE SOVIET UN MISSION YESTERDAY. DOBRYNIN DISCLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT.

6. EMBASSY MOSCOW HOUSING

COVERED BY SEPTTEL.

CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEFECTORS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL), MEETINGS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 04/13/78
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE094611
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MDSHULMAN:EJQ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840163-0188, N780004-0387
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780461/aaaabzly.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8dec39b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2981259
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH DOBRYNIN APRIL 12
TAGS: PARM, PINS, UR, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (DOBRYNIN, ANATOLIY), (SHEVCHENKO, ARKADY N)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8dec39b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014